

Miscauno Wildlife Area

Property Overview

Miscauno Wildlife Area is a 622-acre property located in northeastern Marinette County east of the town of Beecher, in an area of extensive public lands that includes other Wildlife Areas, the Pike Wild River, and Marinette County Forest lands. An embedded State Natural Area (SNA), the [Miscauno Cedar Swamp](#), comprises the majority of the property. This SNA contains a lowland conifer forest in a steep-sided basin along the South Branch of Miscauno Creek. Tree species composition varies from nearly pure stands of pole-sized white cedar to mixtures of white cedar, balsam fir, and black spruce with black ash and elm along the creek. The presence of tamarack stumps indicates a former forest of this species, likely logged in the past. Despite this logging, the lowlands retain a natural condition. The surrounding uplands are forested with second-growth aspen, oak, and pine.

Public Use and Recreation Facilities

The property is open to hunting, trapping, wildlife viewing, hiking, cross-country skiing, and gathering of wild edibles. There are three parking areas. One primitive road traverses the northwest corner of the property.

Natural Resources Management

The SNA is managed to protect the white cedar swamp, primarily through passive management. Forestry practices are used to favor oaks and pines and older age structures in the upland forest through canopy and understory manipulation and extended rotations. An important secondary goal is to ensure that harvest operations do not negatively impact the wetlands.

Special Attributes

Miscauno Creek has been designated as an [Outstanding Resource Water \(ORW\)](#). These, along with Exceptional Resource Waters (ERW) are surface waters which provide outstanding recreational opportunities, support valuable fisheries and wildlife habitat, have good water quality, and are not significantly impacted by human activities. ORWs receive the state's highest protection standards.

